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01-25-02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of: BARCLAY )
Serial No.: 09/461,663 )
Filed: December 14, 1999 )
Atty. File No.: 2997-1-3-1-4 )
For: "A METHOD FOR REDUCING CORROSION IN A FERMENTOR" (as amended) )

Group Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: D. Ware

RESPONSE

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on 1/23/02

SHERIDAN ROSS P.C

KATHLEEN BUSSELL

Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This response is filed in response to the Examiner's Office Action having a mailing date of October 23, 2001. This response is believed to be timely and therefore, no fees are enclosed. In the event that any fees are due in connection with this response, please debit Deposit Account No. 19-1970.

IN THE CLAIMS:

No claims have been amended. For the Examiner's convenience, the claims are reiterated below without amendment.

38. (Reiterated) A method for reducing corrosion of a fermentor during growth of microorganisms in a saline fermentation medium, said method comprising:

obtaining microorganisms from a saline environment;

growing the microorganisms in the fermentor comprising a culture medium in which one of the primary inorganic ions is sodium which is provided in the form of a non-chloride sodium salt, wherein the culture medium contains a chloride concentration of less than about 3 grams chloride per liter of culture medium, and wherein the culture medium containing the non-chloride sodium salt as the primary source of sodium results in reduced fermentor corrosion compared to the culture medium containing sodium chloride as the primary source of sodium.